USDA Midwest Climate Hub
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

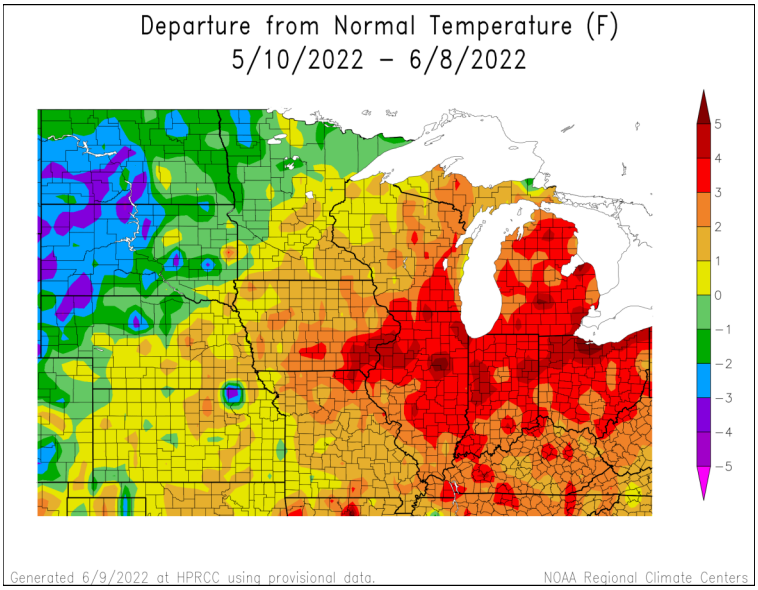
June 8, 2022

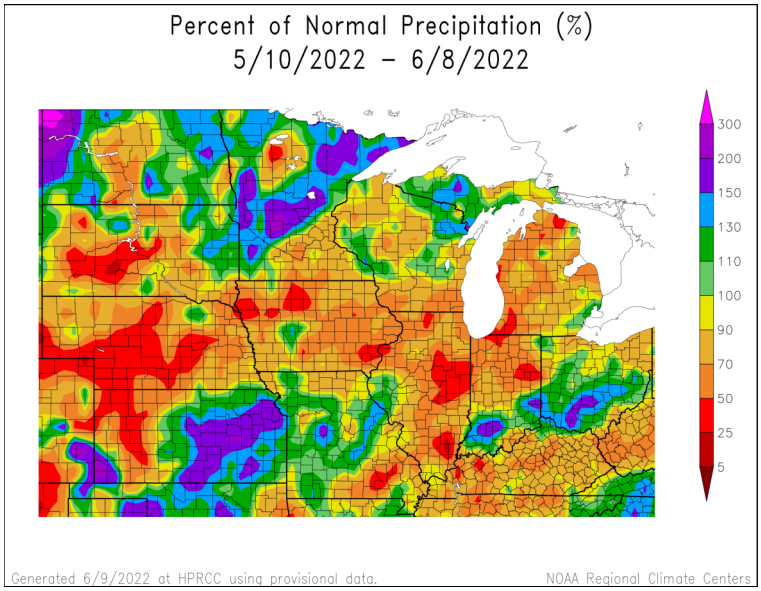
Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

Main Points

- Temperatures have been generally been above average over the last 30 days
- Crop planting has caught up over large areas of the Corn Belt, but delayed/prevented in some spotty areas—very delayed because of wetness in the Northern Plains.
- Spotty areas have been wetter than average. But overall the region has been drier than average.
- Increased chances of warmer and drier conditions, areas need to be monitored for potential return of drought conditions, particularly in the Plains starting the 3rd week of June

Current Conditions





Temperatures were higher than average over ost of the corn and soybean growing areas in May. Only the western plans have seen a continuation of lower than normal temperatures. The states around the Great Lakes have seen the highest temperature departures, with good portions of Michigan, Illinois-Ohio, and southern Wisconsin being 3 to 5 °F above average. The Dakotas, North Minnesota, and Northwest Nebraska were cooler than normal by 1 to 2 (or more) °F below average with scattered portions of the Dakotas more than 4 °F below. Precipitation has been close to or below average for most of the region, with the greatest extremes in the Plains with 200 to 400% of average in the north, and areas below 50% of average across Nebraska and western Kansas and small portions of other states.

Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: ACIS Climate Maps. Generated: 5/5/2022.

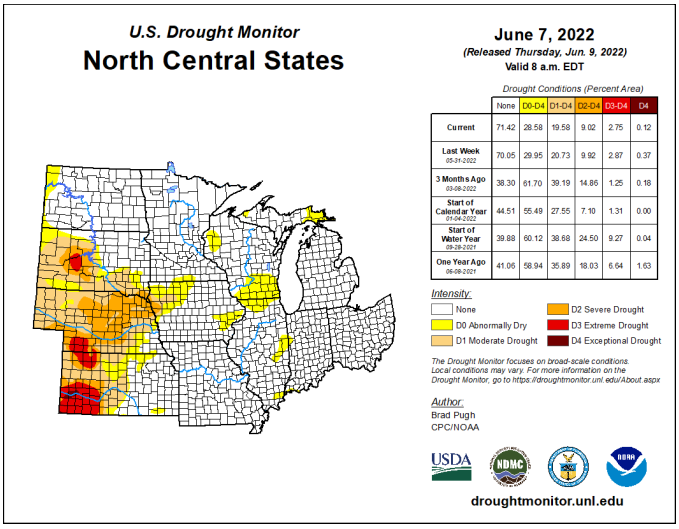
Impacts

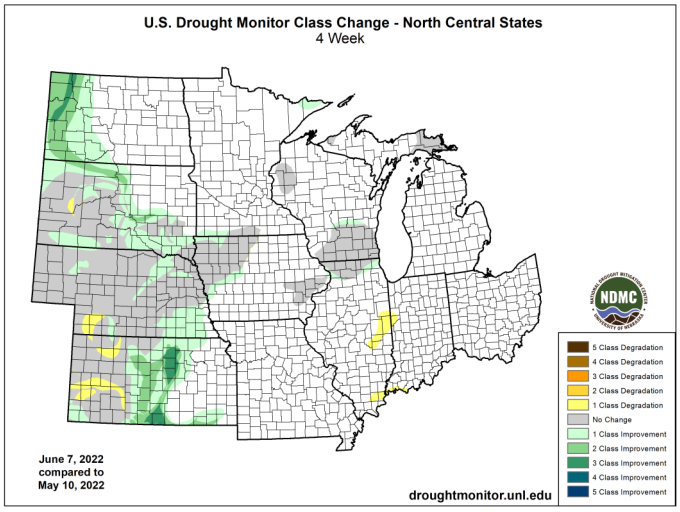
The warmer and drier conditions mostly allowed for planting progress overall with some isolated delays and larger issues in the northern Plains. Conditions allowed generally quicker progress in May. Warmer temperatures particularly in mid-May helped push emergence quickly along with quicker phenology for many perennials. There are isolated areas that will likely not get planted in at least Iowa and Ohio. More widespread delays, unlikely planting and other wetness problems occurred in the eastern Dakota and western Minnesota. Small grains (spring wheat, barley, etc.) are the most damaged here. Spring wheat is at the slowest it has been planted since 2000. Corn and beans will also be delayed or not planted.

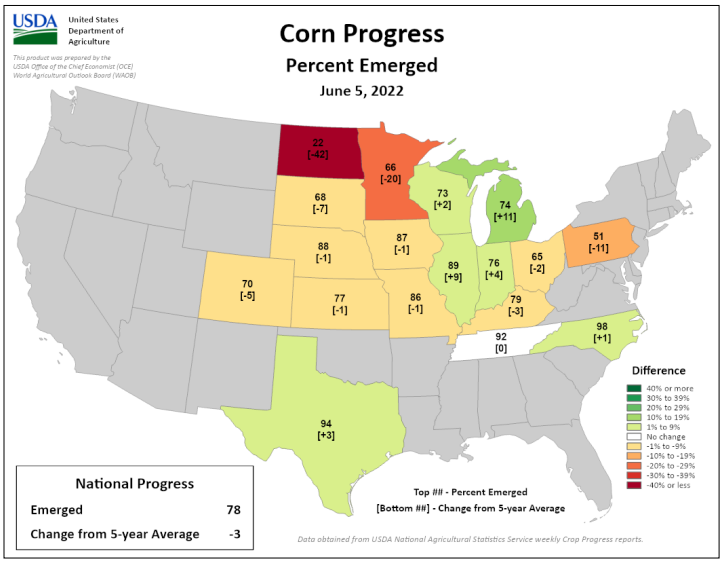
The delays will likely lead to some other problems with chemical applications working around weather conditions. In field delays have also led to some problems with weed control. Delayed crop development is also a possibility with northern areas being most at risk. Warm temperatures in the forecast may help with that issue some.

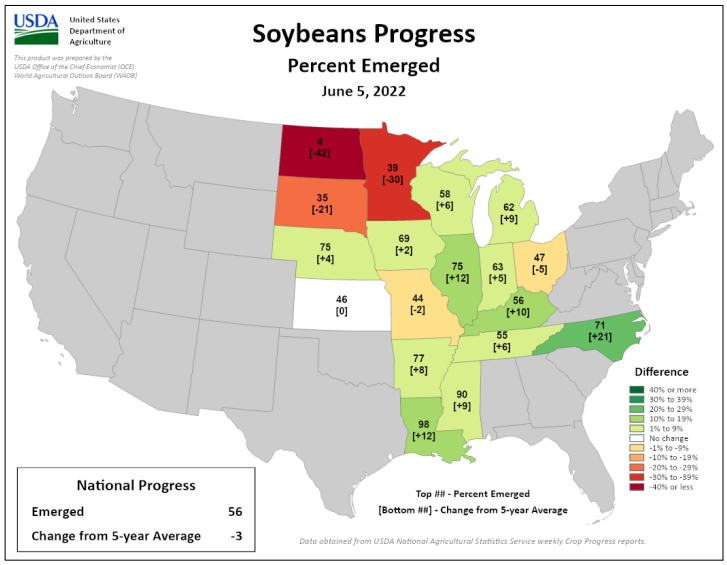
Due to the rainfall over the last 1-2 months, drought conditions have mostly been reduced to areas in the central Plains. Winter wheat and pasture/range conditions have also improved a little in the Plains with the precipitation.

The Midwest Climate Hub would like to hear reports of damage to any crop or horticultural in your region.









Maps Generated by the National Drought Mitigation Center and the National Agricultural Statistic Service.

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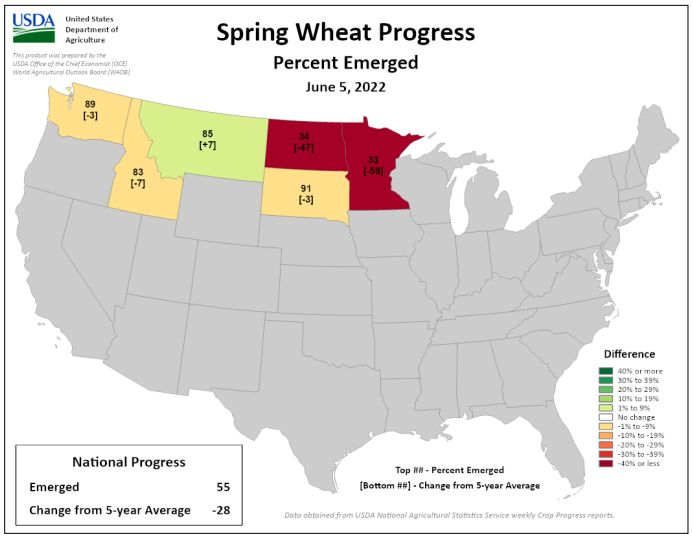
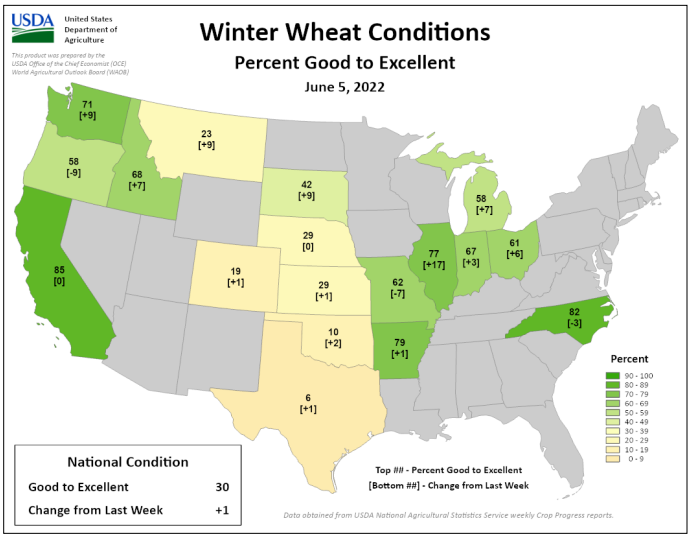
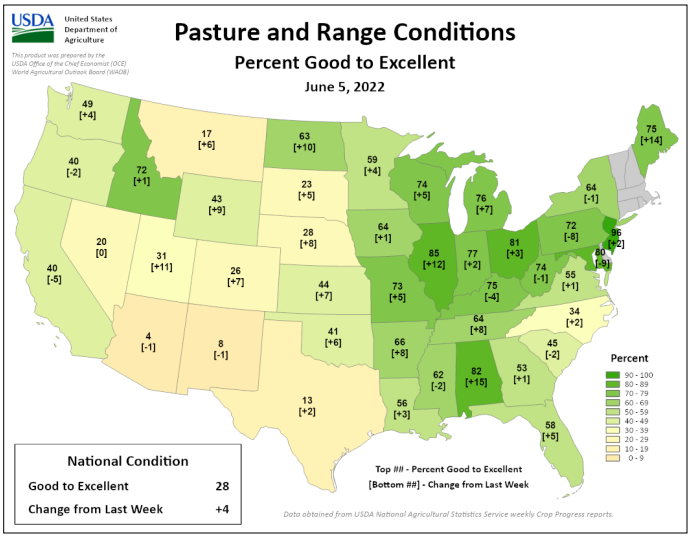


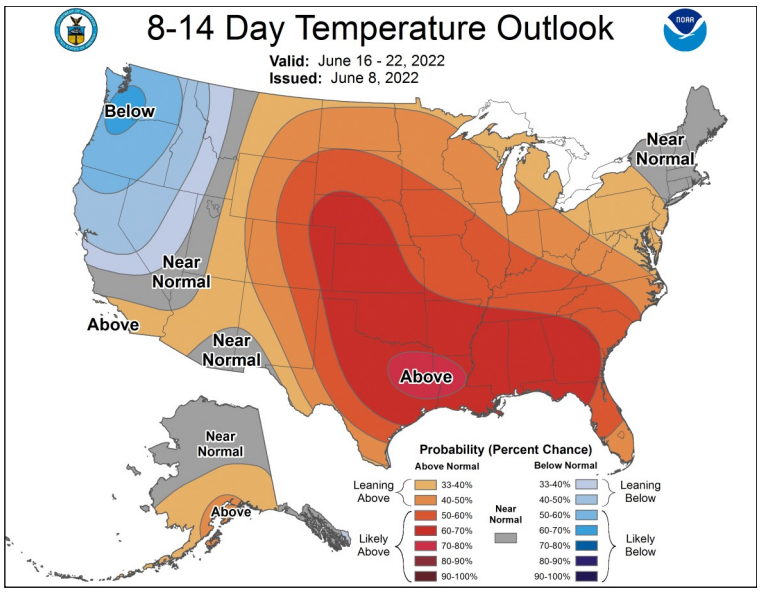


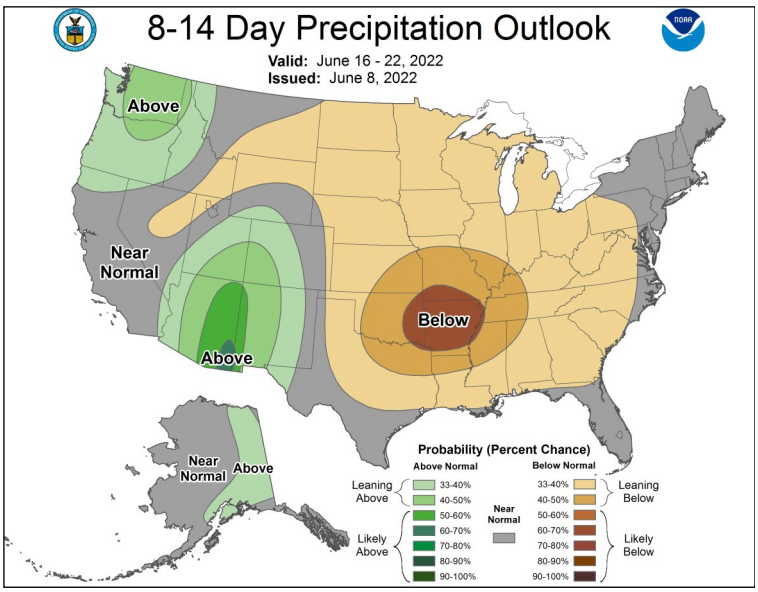
Outlook

Updated outlooks from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center present an interesting set of contrasts. The June monthly outlook (not pictured) indicated slightly better chances for cooler than average temperatures over the North Central US with weak indications on precipitation. But more recent outlooks (8-14 day) for the latter part of the month increase chances for warmer and drier conditions over much of the Central U.S..

Email the Midwest Climate Hub to join our list of subscribers.





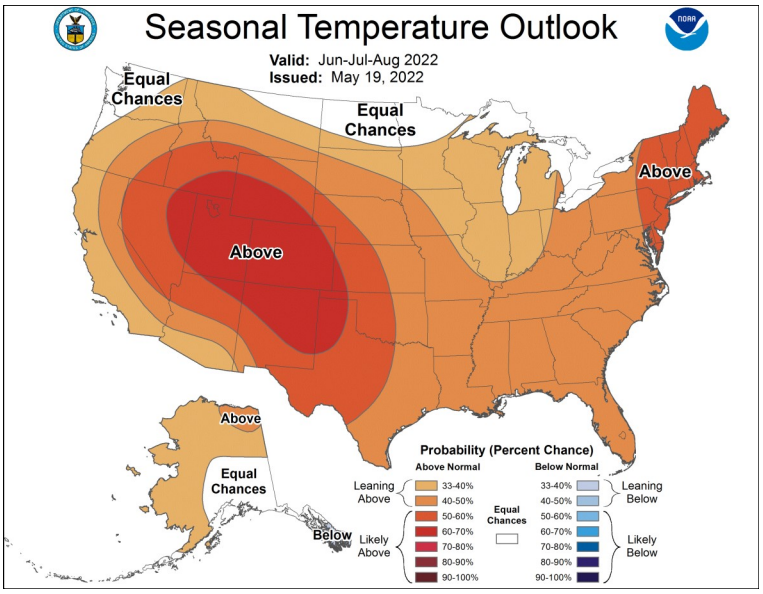


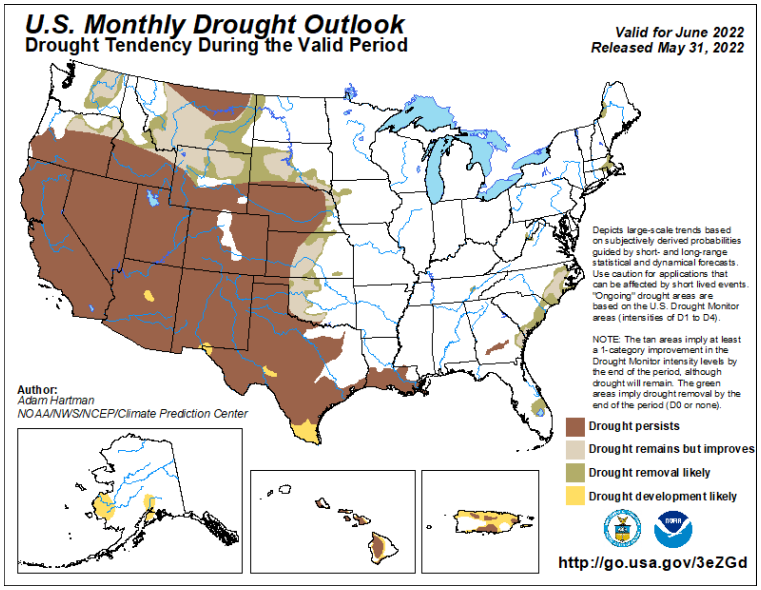
Currently the outlooks are not conclusive about the persistence of the warmer/drier conditions. But seasonal outlooks do have better chances for warmer/drier into the Plains. This situation will have to be monitored closely.

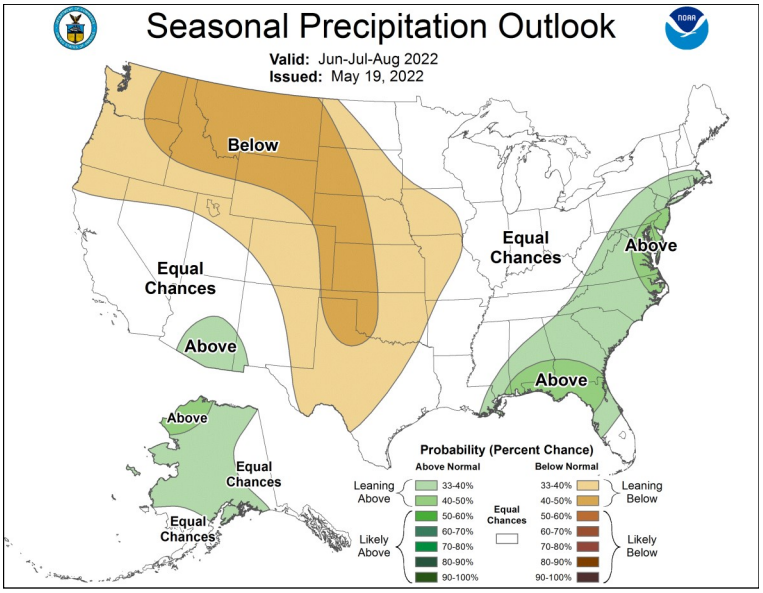
The warmer/drier conditions would increase the risk of drought resurgence in the Plains and possibly further east. The additional heat at least initially would be helpful to add some Growing Degree Days on to late planted crops. However, the high temperatures will reach stressful levels for crops, animals, and humans for at least parts of the region later in June.

Check out the most recent outlooks here:

https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/







Outlooks provided by the Climate Prediction Center.

Partners and Contributors

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Climate Prediction Center (CPC)
National Weather Service (NWS)
National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI)
National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC)
National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)
Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)
Midwest State Climatologists
High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC)

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